

**CAMEROON PIDGIN
INTRODUCTORY MATERIAL**

ENGLISH	CAMEROON PIDGIN	CAMEROON PIDGIN PHONETIC
I am an American and I need your help, but I do not speak your language. I'll point to the question in your language and you can point to the answer in your language.	Ah be komot America. Abeg fo wuna helup. Ah no di talka country talk. I go di show you me finger fo word dem in pidgin and you fit show me yo finger fo ansa in pidgin.	Ah be KO-mot a-MER-ee-ka. AH-beg fo WOO-na hell-UP. Ah no dee TALK-a KON-tree talk. I go dee show U me FEEN-ga fo WER-da dem in PI-gin and U fit show me yo FEEN-ga fo AN-saa in PI-gin.

COMMUNICATION

ENGLISH	CAMEROON PIDGIN	CAMEROON PIDGIN PHONETIC
Will you (singular) help me?	You fit helup me?	U fit hell-UP me?
Will you (plural) help me?	Wuna fit helup me?	WOO-nah fit hell-UP me?
Is there someone that speaks English?	Som man dey wey di talk grammar (English)?	Sum man day way dee talk gram-MA (eng-LISH)?
Are they willing to help me?	Dey go fo helup me?	Day go fo hell-UP me?
Can they come here?	Dey fit come fo here?	Day fit come fo ear?
I must go now but, I want to thank you for your help.	A di go nah so. Thank wuna plenty fo wuna helup	AH dee go nah soo. Tank WOO-nah PLEN-ty fo WOO-nah hell-UP.
My government will repay you for your kindness.	Ma people dem go give wuna somting fine fo wuna helup.	Ma PEEP-ul dem go give WOO-nah sum-TING fine fo WOO-nah hell-UP.
I greatly appreciate your assistance.	A di thank wuna plenty-o fo wuna helup.	Ah dee tank WOO-nah PLEN-ty-Ō fo WOO-nah hell-UP

BASIC NEEDS

ENGLISH	CAMEROON PIDGIN	CAMEROON PIDGIN PHONETIC
May I have some water?	Abeg fo som wata	AH-beg fo sum WAA-ta
May I have some food?	Abeg fo som chop	AH-beg fo sum chop
I am injured. Is there someone that can help me?	A no dey fine. Som man dey fit helup me?	AH no day fine. Sum man day fit hell-UP me?
Do you have any bandages?	You get plasta dem?	U get plass-TA dem?
Can you contact someone to help me?	You fit call som man fo helup me?	U fit call sum man fo hell-UP me?
Where is the latrine?	Latrine dey wusai?	LAN-trine day WOO-sai (long i)
I am very tired. Is there a place I can sleep?	Ah don tire plenty. I wan find some place fo sleep.	Ah dun TIE-ya PLEN-ty
May I have a blanket, or more clothing?	Abeg fo blanket, or wrappa	AH-beg fo bland-KIT, or RAP-pa.

TRAVEL

ENGLISH	CAMEROON PIDGIN	CAMEROON PIDGIN PHONETIC
Can you show me my location on a map?	Fo dis map, we dey wusai?	Fo diss MA-pu, we day WOO-sai?
Can you send word that I am alive?	You fit go tell dem say Ah dey fine?	U fit go tell dem say Ah day fine?
How far is it to friendly territory?	How fa it dey fo go meet up wit me friend dem?	How faah it day fo go MEE-ta up wit me fer-END dem?
Can you take me there?	We fit go dey?	We fit go day?
If you cannot take me, will you give me directions?	You be tell me say you no go. How fa Ah di go fo reach em?	U be TELL me say u NO go. How fah Ah di GO fo reach am?
Is it safe to travel now?	Ah fit walka na so?	Ah fit WAA-ka na so?
Which way do you advise me to travel?	Fo which side Ah fit go?	Fo WEE-cha SAI-da Ah fit go?
How can I travel?	How so Ah fit go walka?	How so Ah fit go WAA-ka?
Automobile	Moto dey?	MO-toe day?
Train	Train dey?	TRAY-na day?
Boat	Boat dey?	BO-te day?
Cart/Wagon	Truck dey?	Trook day?
Pack Animal	Horse dey?	HOR-se day?
On Foot	Walka?	WAA-ka?

UNFRIENDLY

ENGLISH	CAMEROON PIDGIN	CAMEROON PIDGIN PHONETIC
What types of troops are in the area?	Which kind army dem dey fo here?	Witch kine ar-MEE dem day fo ear?
Are they army troops?	Dey army man dem?	Day ar-MEE man dem?
Are they gendarmes?	Dey gendarme dem?	Day JON-darm dem?
Are they militia?	Dey army? Dey bush men? Dey militia?	Dey ar-MEE? Dey bush men? Dey MA-li-sha
Have you noticed any increase of troops or patrolling?	You be see plenty dem army fo here (dey)?	U be see PLEN-ty dem ARM-y fo ear (day)?
When do they patrol?	When dey outside plenty?	Win day OUT-side PLEN-ty?
Are you aware of others like me?	Any man dey dat di get ma skin?	N-ee man day dat dee get ma skin ?
Can you take me to them? (on foot)	Wuna fit take me fo go see dem?	WOO-nah fit take me fo go see dem?
Can you take me to them? (by car)	Wuna fit carry me fo moto fo go see dem?	WOO-nah fit care-REE me fo MOE-toe fo go see dem?

VOCABULARY

ENGLISH	CAMEROON PIDGIN	CAMEROON PIDGIN PHONETIC
Hello	Morning-o, Aftanoon-o	MOR-nin-o, AF-ta-noon-o
Goodbye	Walka fine, I di go	waa-KA
Thank you	Thank you plenty	Tank u PLEN-ty
Please	Abeg	AH-beg
Ammunition	Catridge	KA-tree-ja
Armed Vehicle	Army truck	ar-MEE truck
Checkpoint	Control	con-TROL
Day	Day	Day
Danger	Palava	pa-la-VA
Desert	Desert	de-SERT
East	East	EE-est
Evening	Evening	EVE-nin
Food	Chop	Chop
Good	Fine	Fine
Bad	Wo wo	Wō wō
Here	Here	Ear
Hour	Hour	ow-WA
Kilometer	Kilometer	KI-low-me-ter
Knife	Knife	Naif
Leader	Chief, Big man	Cheef, Big man
Medicine	Medicine	MED-sin
Men (Old Man)	Man dem Pa	Man dem Pa
Women (Old Woman)	Momi dem Momi	ma-ME dem ma-ME
Minute	Minute	MIN-nut
Morning	Morning	MOR-nin
Mountain	Mountain / hill	MAO-ten / ill
Night	Night	NAI-ta (ai as in Chai)
North	North	NOR-ta
Pass	Small road	Small ROW-du
Pistol	Short gun	Sh-ORT gun
Radio	Radio	ray-DEE-ō
River	River	Ri-VAH
Road	Road	ROW-du
Shelter	Bush house / house	Boosh How-sě
South	South	SOW-tě
There	Dey	Day

Trouble	Hamburg	HAM-bug
Valley	Down wata / valley	Down WAA-ta / val-LAY
Village	Village	vill-AGE
Water	Wata	WAA-ta
Weapon	Weapon	WEA-pon
West	West	WEA-st
Yes	Yes	Yes (formal) EH (as in egg)
No	No	No (short and quick)
1	One	One
2	Two	Two (say from gut)
3	Three	Tree (no H)
4	Four	Four
5	Five	Five
6	Six	Six
7	Seven	SEV-en
8	Eight	Eight
9	Nine	Nine
10	Ten	Ten
20	Twenty	TWEN-tee
30	Thirty	TER-tee
40	Forty	FOUR-tee
50	Fifty	FIF-tee
60	Sixty	SIX-tee
70	Seventy	SEY-van-tee
80	Eighty	Ā-tee
90	Ninety	NINE-tee
100	One hundred	One hun-DRED
500	Five hundred	Five hun-DRED
1000	One Thousand	One TAU-san
I want that for one hundred (francs) each	I wan dat fo one one hundred	I wan dat fo one one hun-DRED
I will give you five hundred (francs) for each	I go give you five five hundred fo dem	I go give you five five hun-DRED fo dem